

I trust that the people of Pennsylvania and the Nation will support efforts to deal with high energy prices and encouraging the kind of open and fair debate that leads to better policies across the board.

I reinstate my suggestion that the Senate stay in session during the month of August, if the majority leader would hold a legitimate session that provides the kind of deliberation that has led many to call the U.S. Senate "the greatest deliberative body in the world." Members of this body should be prepared to work as long and hard as necessary in order to reach a solution to the energy crisis not based upon political appeasement, but results. It is time we allow debate and compromise to reverberate through this chamber as we find areas of agreement in the best tradition of the Senate.

NOMINATION OF JAMES A. WILLIAMS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I, Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY of Iowa, intend to object to proceeding to any unanimous consent agreement pertaining to the nomination of Mr. James A. Williams to be the Administrator of the General Services Administration.

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs voted to report the Williams nomination favorably to the full Senate on July 30, 2008.

I oppose this nomination because of Mr. Williams's actions in connection with the renegotiation of a contract with Sun Microsystems in August–September 2006. I have outlined my concerns about this matter in detail in a speech on the floor on July 24, 2008. That statement appears on pages S7272–S7274 of the RECORD.

Mr. President, I would like to inform my colleagues that I have requested to be notified of any unanimous consent agreement that would allow for the consideration of the nomination of Mr. James A. Williams to be the Administrator of the General Services Administration, GSA.

I intend to reserve my right to object to any such request.

I expressed my opposition to this nomination in a floor statement on July 24, 2008, and in a letter to the chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on the same date. My letter to Chairman LIEBERMAN appears in the RECORD on page S7273 at the conclusion of my speech.

My opposition to this nomination is based on the results of an in-depth oversight investigation conducted by my staff in 2006–2007. This investigation examined the actions of Mr. Williams, former Administrator Doan, and several other senior agency officials in the contract negotiations with Sun Microsystems, Inc. in May–September 2006. There were: No. 1. allegations of fraud on the Sun contract that was being renegotiated; No. 2. Mr. Williams

and Ms. Doan had knowledge of the alleged fraud; and No. 3. allegations that Mr. Williams and Ms. Doan had improperly interfered in the ongoing negotiations and put pressure on the contracting officer to sign what was considered a bad contract. I presented the findings of this investigation in a floor statement on October 17, 2007, which appears on pages S12952–12954 of the RECORD.

At Mr. Williams's hearing on July 25, the committee did ask him some tough questions about his knowledge of the alleged fraud and his role in the Sun contract negotiations. However, Mr. Williams's response was less than complete, and there was little or no followup by the committee. I am preparing followup questions for Mr. Williams, asking him for more details.

All the evidence developed in my oversight investigation points to the existence of serious unresolved issues involving Mr. Williams role in this matter. Based on what I know today, I do not believe that Mr. Williams should be promoted to high office. He placed the well-being of the GSA before the interests of all the hard-working American taxpayers, who he was sworn to protect. There needs to be some accountability in the Federal contracting system for blunders and missteps during the Sun contract negotiations.

I may have more to say on this subject at a later date.

PAYMENTS TO PHYSICIANS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I have been examining several doctors at universities across the country to see if they are complying with the financial disclosure policies of the National Institutes of Health. I ask unanimous consent to have my latest letters to Stanford University and to the National Institutes of Health printed in the RECORD.

I yield the floor.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE,
Washington, DC, July 30, 2008.

Dr. JOHN L. HENNESSY,
President, Stanford University, Office of the President, Stanford, CA.

DEAR DR. HENNESSY: First, I would like to thank you for your prompt attention to the matter involving payments made by pharmaceutical companies to Dr. Alan Schatzberg, Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at Stanford University (Stanford/University). Investigators with the Senate Finance Committee (Committee) believe that the following chart provides a better representation of Dr. Schatzberg's disclosures to Stanford and company reports to the Committee.

Committee investigators understand that differences in reporting requirements and accounting methods may result in differences between Dr. Schatzberg's reports and reports from companies that can only be explained in writing. The Committee understands that Stanford will provide a comprehensive response to the initial letter sometime soon, which will include these details. Stanford has notified the Committee that any discrep-

ancies in the chart are most likely due to differences in accounting between Stanford and the various companies contacted by the Committee.

As Stanford pointed out in a public statement, there was an error in the chart that the Committee sent to you regarding payments from Eli Lilly to Dr. Schatzberg in 2007. That chart stated that Dr. Schatzberg had "not reported" this money when in fact he had. Therefore, this letter is being placed in the congressional record to correct the official record.

Stanford also noted that Dr. Schatzberg's reports on payments from Eli Lilly in 2004 include compensation of less than \$10,000 for advisory board activities and \$10,000 to \$50,000 for honoraria for papers, lectures and consulting. This also matches the footnote in the Committee's chart and appears to capture all the monies reported by Eli Lilly (\$52,134) for that year.

However, Committee investigators still have concerns regarding Johnson & Johnson's report of paying Dr. Schatzberg \$22,000 in 2002. According to Stanford's statement, "Dr. Schatzberg did disclose this payment to the university and also reported it to the Committee. He disclosed the \$22,000 payment from Jannsen, the wholly-owned subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson that made the payment." The reason that we continue to be concerned is because Dr. Schatzberg reported less than \$10,000 from Jannsen for academic year 2002 (September 2, 2001 through August 31, 2002) and less than \$10,000 for academic year 2003 (September 1, 2002 through August 31, 2003). Johnson & Johnson did not delineate payments from subsidiaries such as Jannsen when it reported the information to the Committee. Johnson & Johnson reported a payment of "fee for services" of \$22,000 to Dr. Schatzberg on August 19, 2002. Even noting differences in accounting methods, Dr. Schatzberg's reports on Jannsen do not appear to fully explain the discrepancy.

Inconsistencies also appear among the payments reported to us by Eli Lilly in 2002. Eli Lilly reported paying Dr. Schatzberg \$19,788 that calendar year. However, Dr. Schatzberg reported that he received less than \$10,000 from Eli Lilly for academic year 2002 (September 2, 2001 through August 31, 2002) and more than \$10,000 for academic year 2003 (September 1, 2002 through August 31, 2003). Noting possible differences in accounting methods, Dr. Schatzberg's reports on Eli Lilly may explain the discrepancy, but only if one combined the 2002 and 2003 academic years.

Further, based on documents in our possession, it appears that Wyeth paid Dr. Schatzberg for testifying as an expert witness in 2006. This work was in response to lawsuits brought against Wyeth regarding its antidepressant, Effexor. As Dr. Schatzberg wrote in an undated expert report on behalf of Wyeth, "My hourly rate for review of materials or for testimony is \$500." Dr. Schatzberg was apparently an expert witness in at least two cases for Wyeth, but payments for this work cannot be found in his reports of outside income to Stanford. Therefore, I would appreciate your clarification of Dr. Schatzberg's expert witness fees and how they are recorded on Stanford's financial disclosure forms.

Thank you again for your continued cooperation and assistance in this matter. I look forward to a complete response to outstanding questions in the near future. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Paul Thacker at (202) 224-4515.

Sincerely,

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY,
Ranking Member.

Attachment.